

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. 1. (Currently amended) A computer controlled method in a provisioning device in a networked computer system comprising an execution mechanism configured to execute the method, the method comprising:
  4. establishing communication between ~~a~~the provisioning device and ~~a~~the network device over a preferred channel;
  6. exchanging key commitment information over said preferred channel
  7. between said provisioning device and said network device to pre- authenticate
  8. said network device; and
  9. providing provisioning information to said network device ~~over~~ over said
  10. preferred channel, wherein the provisioning information comprises:
    11. a first set of provisioning information; and
    12. other provisioning information;
    13. wherein the first set of provisioning information is provided over
    14. the preferred channel, and the other provisioning information is provided
    15. using a second channel, and
    16. whereby said network device can automatically configure itself for
    17. communication over a network responsive to said first and other provisioning
    18. information.
1. 2. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said provisioning information comprises network configuration information.

1   3. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 1, further comprising  
2           receiving a public key from said network device;  
3           verifying said public key with said key commitment information; and  
4           automatically provisioning said network device with a credential  
5           authorized by a credential issuing authority.

1   4. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 3, further comprising  
2           establishing proof that said network device is in possession of a private  
3           key corresponding to said public key.

1   5. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 3, wherein said  
2           credential issuing authority is a certification authority and said credential is  
3           a public key certificate.

1   6. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 3, wherein the step of  
2           automatically provisioning is responsive to authorization from a  
3           registration agent.

1   7. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said  
2           preferred channel is a location-limited channel.

1   8. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said  
2           preferred channel has a demonstrative identification property and an  
3           authenticity property.

1   9. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein the  
2           network is a wireless network, and wherein said provisioning device is a  
3           wireless access point.

1 10. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 9, further comprising:  
2 receiving a wireless communication;  
3 determining whether said wireless communication originated from  
4 said network device or from a second network device that was not  
5 provisioned by said wireless access point; and  
6 routing said wireless communication responsive to the step of  
7 determining.

1 11. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 10, wherein the step  
2 of routing comprises:  
3 choosing a selected channel from a secure channel and an insecure  
4 channel responsive to the step of determining; and  
5 sending said wireless communication through said selected channel.

1 12. (Original) The computer controlled method of claim 1, wherein said  
2 provisioning device is in communication with a credential issuing  
3 authority.

1 13. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing  
2 instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a  
3 method to provision a 5-network device, the method comprising steps of:  
4 establishing communication between the provisioning device and  
5 said network device over a preferred channel;  
6 exchanging key commitment information over said preferred channel  
7 between said provisioning device and said network device to pre-  
8 authenticate said network device; **and**  
9 providing provisioning information to said network device ~~over~~  
10 over said preferred channel, wherein the provisioning information comprises:

11                   a first set of provisioning information; and  
12                   other provisioning information;  
13                   wherein the first set of provisioning information is provided over the  
14                   preferred channel, and the other provisioning information is provided  
15                   using a second channel, and  
16                   whereby said network device can automatically configure itself for  
17                   communication over a network responsive to said first and other  
18                   provisioning information.

1   14. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13, further  
2                   comprising  
3                   receiving a public key from said network device;  
4                   verifying said public key with said key commitment information; and  
5                   automatically provisioning said network device with a credential  
6                   authorized by a credential issuing authority.

1   15. (Original) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 13, wherein  
2                   the network is a wireless network, and wherein said provisioning device is  
3                   a wireless access point.

1   16. (Currently amended) An apparatus for provisioning a network device  
2                   comprising:  
3                   at least one port configured to establish a preferred channel;  
4                   a preferred communication mechanism configured to be able to  
5                   establish communication with and said network device over said preferred  
6                   channel;

7                   a pre-authentication mechanism configured to be able to receive key  
8                   commitment information over said preferred channel from said network  
9                   device; and

10                  a provisioning mechanism configured to be able to provide  
11                  provisioning information to said network device over said preferred  
12                  channel, wherein the provisioning information comprises:

13                   a first set of provisioning information; and  
14                   other provisioning information;

15                   wherein the first set of provisioning information is provided  
16                   over the preferred channel, and the other provisioning information  
17                   is provided using a second channel; and

18                  whereby said network device can automatically configure itself for  
19                  communication over a network responsive to said first and other  
20                  provisioning information.

1     17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said provisioning  
2                  information comprises network configuration information.

1     18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising  
2                  a key reception mechanism configured to receive a public key;  
3                  a key verification mechanism configured to verify said public key  
4                  with said key commitment information; and  
5                  a credential provisioning mechanism configured to automatically  
6                  provide a credential authorized by a credential issuing authority.

1     19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a key exchange  
2                  mechanism configured to be able to perform a key exchange protocol with  
3                  said network device.

1 20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said credential issuing  
2 authority is a certification authority and said credential is a public key  
3 certificate.

1 21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said preferred channel is a  
2 location-limited channel.

1 22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the network is a wireless  
2 network, and the apparatus further comprises a wireless access point  
3 mechanism.

1 23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, further comprising:  
2       a packet receiver mechanism configured to receive a wireless  
3 communication;  
4       a determination mechanism configured to determine whether said  
5 wireless communication received by the packet receiver mechanism  
6 originated from said network device or from a second network device that  
7 was not provisioned by said wireless access point; and  
8       a router mechanism configured to route said wireless communication  
9 responsive to the determination mechanism.

1 24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the router mechanism  
2 further comprises:  
3       a channel selection mechanism configured to choose a selected  
4 channel from a secure channel and an insecure channel responsive to the  
5 determination mechanism; and  
6       a transmission mechanism configured to send said wireless  
7 communication through said selected channel.

1    25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a non-preferred  
2                    communication mechanism that can be used to communicate with a  
3                    credential issuing authority.

1    26-66. (Canceled)